

grandfather was inducted into the army at Fort Snelling. During World War II, he served in Patton's Third Army in the European Theatre and fought in "The Battle of the Bulge." My grandmother has told us many stories of these difficult times. During the first months after their marriage, she was able to follow him across the country while he completed his training and was on maneuvers. Each day he would call her from the base and would tell her, "Lucille, one day my calls will stop, and you will know that means I have been shipped out." One day the calls did stop. She went back to her hometown and waited. Three long years later, he returned home. They were so lucky. Her younger brother, many of his friends, and so many others, did not come back. Our freedoms were "paid in full" by those brave men and women who have put freedom far above themselves. However, the luxury of our freedom must not make us complacent. We too may find ourselves again face to face with hardships such as those experienced by past generations. We must remember their courage. In remembering their stories of honor, dignity and sacrifice, I can only pray that we preserve our freedom today with the same measure of success.

Samuel Johnson once wrote, "The future is purchased by the present." I believe that freedom is no different. We must have an understanding of the evil present today. On September 11th, our freedom and our way of life came under attack. The brave men and women of the past who sacrificed their lives to extinguish evil in the world, will have not died in vain if we continue to extinguish the evil that is present today. Like yesterday's Nazis, today's terrorists want to drive freedom into extinction. They must not, and will not win if we defend our precious freedom. We must do it for ourselves, and for the future generations of Americans. Now is the time to purchase the freedom of the future.

We have a supreme obligation to commit ourselves to do our duty for our country. We must pay the price for tomorrow's freedom. Tomorrow's children must be assured by our generation that it is our duty to protect their freedom. Some of us will become soldiers like my grandfather, and some will serve in other ways, but all of us must be willing to sacrifice, and remain committed to play a part and pay the price today for freedom tomorrow.

All of us can help pay for tomorrow's freedom by dedicating ourselves to what our ancestors have fought so hard for, and carrying out obligations of remembrance, understanding, and commitment. Remember by learning your history and by listening to those with stories to tell. Understand by being aware and mindful of current history, and commit to this country by being willing to sacrifice to preserve our freedom. Call it patriotism. Call it love of country. Call it loyalty. But whatever you call it, keep it in your heart, and freedom will always follow.

My grandparents have been married for 60 years. They are my heroes!

RECOGNIZING OF THE GE AIRCRAFT ENGINES PLANT IN EVENDALE

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the people who work at the GE Aircraft Engines plant in Evendale, Ohio. This facility was recently recognized and awarded

Voluntary Protection Program Star status by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for its outstanding achievements in workplace safety.

Headquartered in Evendale, Ohio, GE Aircraft Engines is the world's leading producer of large and small jet engines for commercial and military aircraft. Additional work and services at the plant include aircraft-derived engines for marine applications and aviation services.

The OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) promotes effective worksite-based safety and health. In the VPP, management, labor, and OSHA establish cooperative relationships at workplaces to implement a comprehensive safety and health management system. Approval into the VPP is OSHA's official recognition for the outstanding efforts of employers and employees who have implemented exemplary safety and health management systems. In short, it represents a commitment to go beyond compliance to achieve workplace safety.

Less than 0.1 percent of companies are VPP certified. GE has 82 OSHA VPP sites—more than any other company in the nation. As a result of these efforts, 56,000 GE employees, including those in Evendale, enjoy exceptional workplace safety standards. The GE Aircraft Engines plant in Evendale is the largest VPP site in Ohio, the largest GE site to achieve VPP Star status and the largest federal VPP Star manufacturing facility in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the GE Aircraft Engines plant in Evendale for being awarded the prestigious VPP Star status. All of us in Greater Cincinnati congratulate the plant's management and employees on their dedication to outstanding workplace safety standards.

HONORING THE IRONWORKERS LOCAL 84 ON 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Houston's Ironworkers Local 84 and to celebrate their one-hundredth year representing the interests of Houston's ironworkers. Our country's ironworkers have long been admired for the architectural wonders they created while working under tremendously dangerous conditions.

For the past one hundred years, the Ironworkers of Local 84 have put their blood and sweat into the bridges and skyscrapers that have become Houston's celebrated landmarks. Their service to the Houston community, however, did not cease with the end of the work day. During times of war, the ironworkers answered the call for help and offered their skills in the homefront effort to win the war.

Houston's ironworkers also have a long history of standing by each other. Local 84 has historically purchased cemetery plots to make sure that any deceased ironworker receives an honorable burial. Local 84 was Texas's first Ironworkers union to establish a pension fund and medical insurance for its members. Local 84 recognized early the importance of job

training skills in remaining competitive in the field and Houston's Local 84 started an apprenticeship school and a program to upgrade the skills of its journeymen.

Local 84's commitment to its members, to the Houston community, and to the nation as a whole cannot be exaggerated. Therefore, on this day, I salute the hard-working men and women of the International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers, Local 84 and thank them for one hundred years of service. Our great city would not be standing as tall without them, and I wish them great success for the next hundred years.

TRIBUTE TO TASKER L. EDMISTON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to Tasker L. Edmiston who recently passed away, at the age of ninety-four. Mr. Edmiston was a remarkable man whose accomplishments were legion and whose passion was indefatigable. He was an avid outdoorsman and a very important figure in California's conservation movement.

Mr. Edmiston was born on January 22, 1910, in Los Angeles, California. His love for the environment and the outdoors began as a young boy. He was a Sea Scout, an Explorer Scout and later he ran track and set several records in speed-climbing.

During World War II, Mr. Edmiston demonstrated his creativity and entrepreneurial spirit by inventing a new series of food canning machinery. His invention increased the volume and quality of food that was distributed to the Armed Forces in the Pacific.

In the 1960's and 1970's, Mr. Edmiston turned his attention to the conservation movement. He was one of the cofounders and the first treasurer of the Southern California Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. He proved to be instrumental in the establishment of the Edmund C. Jaeger Nature Sanctuary and the Desert Lily Sanctuary. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Desert Protective Council and the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs.

Mr. Edmiston is survived by his son, Joseph T. Edmiston, his daughter-in-law, Pepper Edmiston, and seven grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Tasker L. Edmiston and offering our heartfelt condolences to his family members.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD H. "NED" SCHWARZ

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, Edward H. "Ned" Schwarz, 74, of Lawrence, Boy Scout leader, veteran, businessman, father, and friend to his home town of Lawrence, Massachusetts, died February 1, 2004. A graduate of Melrose High School, he attended MIT for 2 years then enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served stateside during the Korean conflict.

He completed his degree in electrical engineering from Merrimack College after his time in the Air Force and went on to work at the former Western Electric in North Andover as an electrical design engineer. After taking an early retirement he opened the Totem Pole Camping Store in North Andover. He was a man of faith and was a 45-year member of the former United Presbyterian Church of Lawrence where he was an ordained Elder. These are the eloquent words of Charles D. Boddy, Jr. who read this eulogy at the funeral:

Daniel Webster once compared New Hampshire's Old Man of the Mountains to a tradesman's sign hanging above the front door of a store indicating the nature of the tradesman's trade. He stated that God had hung out the Old Man of the Mountains as if to say, "here we build men." It is, therefore, oddly fitting that we should lose Uncle Ned, another icon of the mountains, within a year of the fall of the Old Man. Uncle Ned was himself, a builder of men.

Monday nights, 7-9 p.m., first three Mondays of the month, September to June. For more than 40 years, if you were a boy growing up on Prospect Hill in Lawrence, these nights were reserved. Fathers in the neighborhood packed up their young sons and brought them to Uncle Ned who spent these hours nurturing the boys' resourcefulness and self-reliance through the scouting program. I am fortunate to have been one of those boys, and my words speak for all of us.

I well remember sitting with him, as a boy, as he taught me my knots. His thick fingers routinely tracing the course of rope as they had done so many times with so many other scouts before me. The process of making the knot was so ingrained in him from years of practice, rehearsal, and repetition. Later, as a young scout leader I watched again as he taught another boy the lesson, now his fingers slightly gnarled by the faint touch of arthritis that, alone, betrayed his age. As I watched him teach, year after year, I myself learned that his lesson was not one of knots, but one of life. By patiently guiding each scout, he let him know that he mattered, he was important. By teaching the simple lessons, he instructed us that the greatest lesson was personal contact: that a communion of souls could bridge the greatest of differences. Hence, you will see among his scouts and admirers members of every creed and race, followers of every cause, the elite and powerful, as well as the simple and humble. Uncle Ned related to us all. He effortlessly collected friends along his journey.

He was a mentor to all the boys who passed through his scout troop, growing with them, changing his methods as the times changed, but always giving generously of his time and himself. He was a man who saw solutions not problems, and saw friends, never enemies. In the highly political climate of his home City, he followed the path to improve us through unity and friendship, through our commonality, and avoided the thorny path of criticism and divisiveness.

Without a doubt, Uncle Ned has returned to the camp in the highest summit from which he started his 74 year hike. He rests at a camp made safe by the Great Scoutmaster in the Heavens. Boss Buttmann, Troop 2's first scoutmaster, along with all of Troop 2's finest, who have passed before, are at his side. He has marked his final trail with the scout orienteer's sign of a dot within a circle indicating "Gone home." There he sits, and there he waits, tending a roaring fire. Uncle Ned, the faithful Scoutmaster will guide and guard his troop until the last of us is safe at home by his side.

Ned Schwarz was very proud of Charlie Boddy, the young man who delivered the eu-

logy at his memorial service, as he was of all his scouts. Charlie went on to public service following Ned's example of public service and civic duty becoming City Solicitor for Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Besides spending countless hours with his beloved scouts, Ned worked tirelessly to revitalize his neighborhood and his hometown. Ned led graffiti removal efforts, park clean-ups and helped to organize the annual National Night Out celebration for his Prospect Hill neighborhood. He belonged to numerous civic organizations including the Lawrence Historical Commission, the Lawrence Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, and the Prospect Hill Back Bay Neighborhood Association, in which he served in various leadership positions over the years along with his dear friend, Jim Ross. The two of them took great pride in constructing the Neighborhood Association's parade floats which won numerous awards.

Edward H. "Ned" Schwarz will be remembered by his loving wife Gloria, his wife of 50 years; sons Edward R. and his wife Julie of Salem, N.H., and Erich H. and his wife Amy of Lawrence; daughters Lynn and her husband Edward McNamara of Merrimack, N.H., and Beverly and her husband John Cody of Haverhill; grandchildren John, Christopher and Catherine McNamara, Emily Schwarz, Tom and Dan Cody and Andrew and Nysa Schwarz; sisters Dorothy Gretchen Perkins and Hope Cox of Maine; and several nieces and nephews; a grateful City and thousands of young men whose lives he touched.

REGARDING THE RETIREMENT OF DUDLEY L. TADEMY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, one of the privileges of serving as a member of Congress is that you work with some amazing people. The halls of our buildings are filled with bright and energetic Americans, and every now and then among them a true hero.

By my definition, a hero is someone who would never use that word. Dudley Tadem, who is leaving the Armed Services Committee staff this week, fits that definition. But he fits anyone's definition of an honorable patriot.

Before Dudley came to Capitol Hill, before he took on the job of overseeing the military's readiness for the Armed Services Committee, before he was the assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Atomic Energy, before all of those achievements that would be enough credit for any man, he was thirty years a soldier. As Captain Tadem, he served in Vietnam, and what service that was.

Mr. Speaker, even those members not familiar with the details of that grueling war may have heard of Landing Zone X-Ray, and the Ia Drang Valley. They are familiar names, thanks to the book "We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young." That story, of how the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) endured one of the most brutal engagements of that war, is also part of the story of Dudley Tadem. He was there. And as the fire support coordinator for the 3rd Brigade, he devised and directed the artillery plan that was central to holding the enemy at bay and creating an escape path for hundreds

of overrun American soldiers. Across our country are men, their children, and grandchildren who would not be with us but for Dudley Tadem.

As he said of that time, "It's our job to get the job done and get those kids home safe." He brought that same dedication and mission to his work with the Armed Services Committee—always putting the soldier first.

For the last ten years, he has carried a Herculean load on the committee staff. He oversees military readiness, now a \$140 billion portfolio; all Department of Energy nuclear weapons related activities, another \$16 billion annually; all Morale, Welfare, and Recreation programs—that's another \$18 billion—and matters concerning two of my favorite subjects, organization of the Department of Defense and professional military education. That's more oversight responsibility in one man than some entire full committees on the Hill! And there's nobody you or I would trust more to carry those astounding tasks.

Nothing I or anyone can say here can do justice to Dudley Tadem's service, in uniform or after. Yet to speak with him, you would never guess at it. He is, in a word we don't use enough in Congress, humble. His gentle character and cheerful whistle belie a man of great discipline—still keeping up a daily physical training regimen, you'd never guess that he was older than most members. But he remains young in spirit, mentoring junior staff, and active in his church, where he counsels troubled youth.

Now he can begin to devote proper time to Audrey, who does so much to keep Dudley humble. And instead of serving sixty committee members, Dudley's priority will be six grandchildren, and I believe they already have him more fully scheduled than we ever did.

Best of all, we know that any time the Committee gets in a jam, we can call upon the inspiration of an American who has honored this Congress with his service. I salute Dudley Tadem, and know that all members will join me in gratitude for his company and devotion.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF DAVID SCHAFFER

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate one of our long-time staff members on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on his retirement. David Schaffer is retiring as the Majority Staff Director and Senior Counsel of the House Aviation Subcommittee at the end of this month.

David joined the House Committee on Public Works and Transportation in 1984 as Assistant Minority Counsel for the Subcommittee on Aviation, became the Minority Counsel of the Aviation Subcommittee in 1992 and then Majority Counsel in January 1995.

Over the course of his 26 years in the federal government, including 6 years with the Civil Aeronautics Board, his efforts have directly contributed to many of this Committee's significant legislative efforts to enhance the overall safety, efficiency, competitiveness and security of our Nation's aviation system.